

## **Stormwater BMPs**

### **Georgia Storm Water Manual**

- The [Georgia Stormwater Manual's](#) development was lead by Atlanta Regional Commission and Georgia Environmental Protection Division. This three volume manual is designed to address stormwater management throughout the State. Volume One, Stormwater Policy Guidebook, provides guidance to local governments on stormwater management. Volume Two Technical Guidance Handbook provides techniques and measures for implementing stormwater management, and Volume Three Pollution Prevention Guidebook is a compendium of pollution prevention practices.

### **Coastal Storm Water Supplement (CSS)**

- The [CSS](#) is a supplement to the Georgia Stormwater Manual addressing stormwater management in the coastal plain environment of Georgia. Chapter Seven (7) of the CSS presents green infrastructure practices of site planning, and low impact development. Chapter Eight (8) presents' stormwater management practices that can be applied based on a site's particular needs. Developed of the Coastal Stormwater Supplement is lead by the Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC). The MPC continues to maintain the latest information and edits to the Coastal Stormwater Supplement on their [Natural Resources Stormwater Webpage](#).

## **Green Infrastructure**

- In the context of stormwater management, green infrastructure is the use of techniques and measures design to be "green". Green design features are natural features and natural processes that are interconnected to manage stormwater quality and quantity. Chapter 7 of the [CSS](#) provides guidance on applicable green infrastructure stormwater management techniques and measures. [US EPA Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure Webpage](#) another resource on use of green infrastructure for stormwater management.

## **Low Impact Development Practices**

- Small scale practices designed to disconnect impervious and disturbed pervious areas from stormwater drainage systems and reduce post construction stormwater runoff rates, pollutant loading and volumes. Low impact design practices are recommended in the [Coastal Georgia's Green Growth Guidelines](#) and in chapter 7 of the [CSS](#).

## Green Growth Guidelines

- The [Green Growth Guidelines](#) were developed by the Coastal Management Division, CRC and EMC Engineering. These guidelines provide an alternative approach to development, using site fingerprinting, designing with landforms, low impact development, and alternative stormwater and bank stabilization techniques to reduce the environmental impact of development.

## Erosion and Sediment Control

- Erosion and Sediment Control addresses a range of land disturbance activities and seeks to minimize potential impacts, protect Georgia's waters from impacts of runoff and erosion from land disturbing activities - construction, agricultural, forestry. The EPD [Technical Guidance Webpage](#) for Water Protection provides a number of resources for erosion control.

## Funding

- One method is the establishment of a [Stormwater Utility](#) to operate like a water or wastewater utility, raising funds through fees and or taxes from within their service area to implement and maintain a stormwater management program. The [Coastal Stormwater Utility Handbook](#) provides step-by-step process for establishing a Stormwater Utility.
- **Impact fees** are another tool that maybe used where a local government has an authorized impact fee program. Impact fees are charge during the development phase to provide funding for public investment in stormwater management facilities that will support the new development.

## Inspection and Maintenance

- Inspection and maintenance programs important to maintaining stormwater control systems. Who provides and is responsible for maintenance is critical; the developer, homeowners association, or local government. Camden County requires systems to be turned over for control and maintenance.

## Floodplain Management

- The practice of managing activities in areas with certain chance of flooding, know as a floodplain, with the purpose to reduce risk and losses associated with flooding. A floodplain is the area of land along a water

body that experiences periodic inundation by a flood. Activities within a floodplain are at risk of being impacted by the quantity of stormwater flowing through or into a water body. Waters being moved through or around a water body, such as by winds and tides can also produce flooding. FEMA provides a number of [Floodplain Management Resources](#).

### **No Adverse Impact (NAI)**

- A floodplain management approach developed by the [Association of State Floodplain Managers \(ASFPM\)](#) designed to provide tools for communities to provide a higher level of floodplain protection. The principle behind NAI is to ensure the actions of any community or property owner, public or private, does not adversely impact the property and rights of others. ASFPM has developed two documents "[No Adverse Impact](#)" and "[Coastal No Adverse Impact Handbook](#)" to assist local communities in identifying their flooding risk, public education and outreach, planning, regulation and development standards, mitigation, infrastructure, and emergency services. The Coastal NAI Handbook was developed with support from NOAA and FEMA.

### **Community Rating System (CRS)**

- The [CRS program](#), under the national flood insurance program, encourages communities to take steps to reduce flood risk that goes beyond the required NFIP minimum standards. Participation is rewarded through the reduction of insurance rates from five (5) percent to 45 percent, based on the activities of a participating community.